REMARKS

The Applicants respectfully request examination of the present application as amended herein. Upon entry of the above preliminary amendment, claims 12-30 and 35-51 remain pending in the application with claims 12, 21, 26, 45, 46, 47, and 49 in independent form. More specifically, claims 1-11 and 31-34 have been cancelled and claims 35-51 have been added. It is important to recognize that the original application skipped certain claim numbers and also had certain claims that were missed numbered. Accordingly, the Applicants have attempted to clarify any ambiguities by the present amendment. There is full support in the specification as originally filed for the amendments to the claims and for the new claims. Accordingly, no new matter has been introduced.

Additionally, the specification has been amended simply to correlate with the amendments made and allowed during the previous prosecution of the parent and grandparent applications (USPNs 6,649,107 and 6,432,543, respectively).

It is respectfully submitted that the application is now presented in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our deposit account no. 08-2789 for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

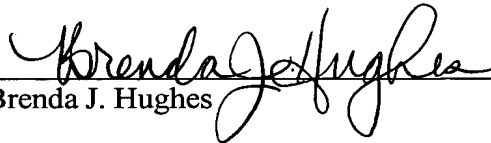Respectfully submitted,

HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

Date: December 16, 2003

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

I hereby certify that the enclosed Second Preliminary Amendment and fee are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee", **Mailing Label No. EL 993 944 716 US** and addressed to **Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**, on **December 16, 2003**.

Brenda J. Hughes
Brenda J. Hughes

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